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JANICE K. BREWER
SECRETARY OF STATE

State of Arizona Senate Forty-eighth Legislature Second Regular Session 2008

## **SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 1045**

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

COMMEMORATING THE SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PROCLAMATION OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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Whereas, on November 29, 1947, the United Nations General Assembly voted to partition the British Mandate of Palestine and create a Jewish state; and

Whereas, on May 14, 1948, the people of Israel proclaimed the establishment of the sovereign and independent State of Israel, and the United States Government established full diplomatic relations with Israel; and

Whereas, the impulse to establish the independent State of Israel, with the city of Jerusalem as its capital, is an outgrowth of the existence of the historic kingdom of Israel established in the Land of Israel three thousand years ago; and

Whereas, for over two thousand years, there has been continuous Jewish presence and residence in the land comprising the modern State of Israel; and

Whereas, the establishment of the modern State of Israel as a homeland for the Jewish people followed the slaughter of more than six million European Jews during the Holocaust; and

Whereas, since its establishment sixty years ago, the State of Israel has rebuilt a nation, forged a new and dynamic democratic society and created a thriving economic, political, cultural and intellectual life despite the heavy costs of war, terrorism and unjustified diplomatic and economic boycotts against the people of Israel; and

Whereas, the people of Israel have established a vibrant, pluralistic, democratic political system, including freedom of speech, association and religion; a vigorously free press; free, fair and open elections; the rule of law; a fully independent judiciary, and other democratic principles and practices; and

Whereas, Israel has developed some of the leading universities in the world, and eight Israeli citizens have been awarded the Nobel Prize; and

Whereas, Israel has developed an advanced, entrepreneurial economy, is among the world's leaders in high-tech industry and is at the forefront of research and development in the field of renewable energy sources; and

Whereas, Israel regularly sends humanitarian aid, search and rescue teams, mobile hospitals, and other emergency supplies, to help victims of disasters around the world, including the 1994 Rwandan civil war, the 1998 bombing of the United States Embassy in Kenya, the 1999 earthquakes in Turkey, the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, the 2005 hurricanes along the southern coast of the United States and the 2007 fires in Greece; and

Whereas, Israel has absorbed millions of Jews from countries throughout the world and fully integrated them into Israeli society; and

Whereas, Israel has bravely defended itself from repeated terrorist and military attacks since its independence; and

Whereas, successive leaders of Israel have sought to achieve peace with Israel's Arab neighbors; and

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Whereas, Israel has established peaceful bilateral relations with neighboring Egypt and Jordan and has made its desire to establish peaceful relations with all Arab states abundantly clear; and

Whereas, for six decades, the United States and Israel have maintained a special relationship based on mutually shared democratic values, common strategic interests and moral bonds of friendship and mutual respect; and

Whereas, the citizens of Arizona feel a strong affinity for the Israeli people based on common values and shared cultural heritage; and

Whereas, the United States and the State of Arizona continue to regard Israel as a strong and trusted ally and an important strategic partner. Therefore

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Arizona, the House of Representatives concurring:

- 1. That the members of the Legislature of the State of Arizona:
- (a) Recognize the historic significance of the sixtieth anniversary of the reestablishment of the sovereign and independent State of Israel as a homeland for the Jewish people.
- (b) Commend the people of Israel for their remarkable achievements in building a new state and a pluralistic, democratic society in the face of terrorism, hostility, ostracism and belligerence from many of their neighbors.
- (c) Extend the warmest congratulations and best wishes to the State of Israel and the Israeli people for a peaceful, prosperous and successful future.
- 2. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit a copy of this Resolution to the President of the State of Israel, the Chairman of the Knesset, the Israeli ambassador to the United States and the Consulate General of Israel in Los Angeles, California.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED BY THE HOUSE JUNE 18, 2008.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED BY THE SENATE JUNE 18, 2008.

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE JUNE 19, 2008.

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